## January 2015 [REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS]



## Receive the Benefits You Deserve

Seniors can participate in over 2,000 federal, state, and private programs and benefits. Many seniors don't know these programs exist. I would like to take this opportunity to promote a free comprehensive screening tool for seniors.

www.BenefitsCheckup.org/MCOA is a free service produced by the National Council on Aging. The website asks a series of questions, including financial, to help identify benefits that could save you money and cover the costs of everyday expenses.

As you know, seniors can struggle to meet financial obligations due to a fixed income. This screening tool has led over 4 million seniors find benefits worth over

\$14.7 billion. The website is comprehensive enough to take into consideration one's entire situation, including income vs. medical expenses and is easy to navigate.

Ouestions that are asked seek to screen individuals for eligibility including the applicant's age, marital status, veteran's status, disability, household income, household assets, and household expenses.

After answering the questions, you will get a report created just for you that describes the programs you may get help from. You can apply for many of the programs online or you can print an application form and mail it to the address listed on the forms.

Some of the types of expenses you may get help with include:

- Medications
- Food
- Utilities
- Legal
- Health Care
- Exercise programs
- Housing
- In-home services
- Taxes
- **Transportation**
- **Employment Training**
- Supplemental Security Income

The Maynard Senior Center and my registative stantage trained and available to assist anyone that doesn't have a computer, internet, or needs general assistance to use www.benefitscheckup.org/mcoa. I will also be holding benefits screening events in the next few months throughout my district with a goal of reaching every senior to ensure everyone is receiving the benefits and services they deserve.

Please call my office, at 617-722-2692, if you have any questions, or need help navigating through this important website.

## **Hogan's Office Hours**

I will be holding office hours in Hudson on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at Ariba Coffee, 246 Main Street, Bolton Office Hours will be held on Thursday, January 29th from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Bolton Public Library, 563 Main Street. Please bring any questions, ideas or concerns you may have.

I hope everyone has a very happy and safe New Year!

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Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

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